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Welcome



Summertime,
And the livin' is easy
Fish are jumpin'
And the cotton is high

- **George Gershwin, "Porgy and Bess," 1935**

Your *Scoop* editors hope you are enjoying a few lazy days of summer. *The Scoop* will resume its twice monthly schedule with the next issue on September 12th.



Meet Linda Rassmussen

Linda Rassmussen is the director of the Grace District Library. The library serves a small rural area in southeastern Idaho. There is no industry in the district, just agriculture: mostly potatoes, grain, alfalfa and beef cattle. There are approximately 2,200 residents and four schools serve the community: two elementary schools, one junior high and one high school.

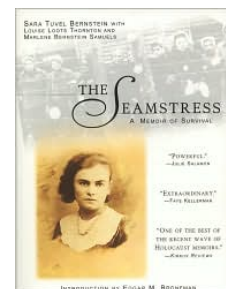
Linda works with all ages. She does weekly storytimes and summer reading. Linda is excited to be involved in First Book this year for the first time. They will be visiting three different preschools in the area.

Her biggest success has been to get children to feel comfortable at the library. Most kids recognize Linda now from her school visits or their visits to the public library. Her biggest challenges are lack of space, budget and time to get everything done. Linda was attracted to library service because, as a child, the local library was her favorite place to hang out and she has always loved books and children---a perfect combination.



Linda's favorite part of her job is knowing the kids by name; buying books is a close second. Her favorite childhood author and book were *Little House in the Big Woods* by Laura Ingalls Wilder. It was one of her first chapter books, and she loved the whole series. Linda read everything but waited anxiously for the newest Nancy Drew books. Other favorites were the *Black Stallion* books, *Strawberry Girl* by Lois Lenski and Eleanor Estes' books.

Recently, Linda has read Margaret Peterson Haddix's *Found*. Adult favorites include Lawrence Hill's *Someone Knows My Name*, *The Seamstress* by Sara Tuvel Bernstein, and Jeannette Walls' *The Glass Castle*. She also reads James Patterson, Harlan Coben, and Tess Gerritson.



Linda's favorite flavor of ice cream is maple nut. In her free time she enjoys working in her flower garden, watching grandkids' activities, and, of course, reading good books. Linda summed up by saying, "An added bonus of working in the library community has been meeting so many great people from around the state."

Library to Library



Governor and First Lady Present Read to Me Mini-grant Checks

As highlighted in the June *Scoop*, thirty Idaho libraries received Read to Me mini-grants that will fund early literacy outreach programs. Over the last few weeks, the Governor and Mrs. Otter visited several of these libraries where they presented the grant award check, congratulated and commended library staff, and spoke about the importance of reading to young children.

"There are many great things about the library but our Read to Me program is a program that really gets everyone off to a great start in life because if you can learn how to read, all you have to do is walk up and down these aisles and you can go any place in Idaho, you can go any place in the United States, you can go any place in the world and those books will take you there," Governor Otter said during Lewiston's presentation event. The Governor is pictured [above right] at the Lewiston City Library.



"You know, handing out the check is the easy part and the Governor and I recognize that. And our job is to promote the communities, promote the people on the ground level doing the work and let them receive the credit that they need and that they deserve," Idaho's First Lady said at Portneuf District Library's [Chubbuck] presentation. She is pictured at the right with Portneuf's Youth Services Librarian Jeanne Farnworth. Mrs. Otter also presented checks to the Marshall Public Library in Pocatello and the Snake River School/Community Library in Blackfoot (*the photo below is taken there*).



Congratulations again to all the grant recipients! The ICFL hopes to again offer Read to Me mini-grants for the 2009 – 2010 year. Look for information about mini-grants and other grant opportunities in future editions of *The Scoop*.



Librarians Hone Early Literacy Skills

Fifty-seven librarians from 41 libraries gathered on August 1st in Boise to learn more about the **First Book project** and to receive hands on



training for the **Every Child Ready to Read (ECRR) Family Workshops**. Libraries participating in First Book heard about project requirements and had the opportunity to discuss book distribution ideas, parent workshops and family reading events. *Pictured above right* is Susan Reid, Jerome School District; Sue Lungren, Kooskia Library; and Jana Striebel, Lizard Butte District Library as they discuss ways to attract parents to library workshops.



The ECRR training was led by Saroj Ghoting (*pictured left*), a national trainer with the Association for Library Services to Children (ALSC) Every Child Ready to Read Project. Saroj shared her enthusiasm and expertise with staff from the 23 libraries that have agreed to host two six-part family workshops during the coming year. The library workshops will provide information to parents on the six early literacy skills and demonstrate activities that parents and their children can do at home. Each family who attends the workshops receives a free book at each session which illustrates one of the six skills: phonological awareness, vocabulary, print

awareness, narrative skills, letter knowledge and print motivation.

Pictured at right [starting center left and going clockwise]: Elsie Coburn and Myrna Weikel (Midvale District Library), Krissi Hansen (Council Valley Library) and Rhonda Jameson and Marcy Rowe (Boise Basin District Library) practice their workshop scripts.



Cascade Public gets dream book store to help raise funds



Over 100 people attended the Grand Opening of the “new” Recycled Book Store that opened for business on Saturday, July 5, 2008. The Friends of the Cascade Library group runs the store as a fundraiser for the Cascade Public Library.

Library Director Robin Mayfield, along with other FOL members, began thinking of possible sites around town to open a store in 2006 after a labor-intensive annual Memorial Day book sale, but there wasn't an ideal spot. Early in 2007, the library

received a lead on moving and using a small building. Numerous calls and arrangements were made to enlist the help of a crane and trailer to move the building

next to the library, but after the building was lifted, it was determined it would suffer damage beyond repair if it was moved; therefore, the idea was abandoned.

While patrons of the library still held on to the hope that a location or building would come to light, library supporter Lucy Chronic suggested the idea of an old fashioned “barn raising” event to actually build a book store building.

Librarian Valerie Stewart contacted avid library supporter and building contractor Manuel Dominguez who took on the coordination of the project and in October, 2007, numerous other volunteers began construction of the building. Through Manuel's volunteer hours, the volunteer efforts of many others, and the discounted prices that several lumber stores were able to give, the book store finally was able to open its doors.

The book store is home to more than 5,000 titles of nonfiction, fiction and children's books. Current hours are Thursday, Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The book store is staffed by volunteers, many of whom are members of the local Friends of the Library Group.

Robin said she's thrilled with the efforts of so many in the community. “It's great. We'd really like to thank the volunteers who worked on the book store, the library board members, and the Mayor and City Council. Without everyone's help and cooperation, the book store would still be a dream,” she said.

Young Adult Corner

Welcome to the Blogosphere

[Editor's Note: The following article is by Jennifer Hills and Beth Twitchell. Beth and Jennifer are reference librarians at [Twin Falls Public Library](#).]

It seems that there's been a proliferation of blogs these days; everyone and their dog (literally – you should Google “dog blogs”) has one. Most blogs are a bit silly, or irrelevant, or offer TMI (ask a YA if you need help decoding that one). However, there are a few that are worth looking at and can provide YA librarians with useful information about books and programming. We've weeded through a few and found some gems, which frees up your time to surf some of those “other blogs.”

The Young Adult Library Services Association has a blog at <http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/>. It gives news and information of the Young Adult world, plus updates and events (such as conferences and programs). This site is run by ALA, so it's a good place to look for anything official.

Miranda Doyle, a middle school teacher and librarian, has redesigned her blog, but seems to be keeping both updated. Check out both <http://teenlibrarianblog.blogspot.com/> (the old one) and

<http://teenlibrarian.com/joomla2/> (the new one) for her recommendations on what are good websites for teens.

A good place to get ideas is www.yalibrarian.com/, also known as the “Alternative Teen Services.” This blog is maintained by several teen librarians, and they mainly feature YA books, plus ideas for teen programs. If you’re planning to do a Stephenie Meyer party, this is the place to check out.

Want the latest information about libraries and gaming? Then you need to check out <http://libgaming.blogspot.com>. This blog is run by Beth Galloway, a librarian and “avid gamer.” She talks about books that relate to gaming in libraries and includes interviews and links to other sites.

Library Youth and Teen Services 2.0 at <http://libraryyouth.ning.com/> is a good place to go if you’re interested in joining an online community. Members, who are comprised youth services librarians, add videos and pictures, and discuss youth in libraries and web 2.0. They also ask and answer questions.

School, public, and academic librarians make up the blog community at www.popgoesthelibrary.com/. Whereas this is not completely a YA centered blog, it is fun and useful, as the librarians relate all things pop-cultured and library related. Book are included, are as movies and TV shows.

YPulse, found at <http://ypulse.com/>, is a daily blog for not only young adult librarians, but anybody who has a job affiliated with teens. Many current events and topics are included, and not all are directed to libraries. Things such as politics and teenage drinking are discussed. All in all, it’s a very interesting blog to get into the mindset of today’s teens.

Reading Rants! (www.readingrants.org/) offers tons of reviews, some funky reading lists, and links to other YA book sites. Readers can post comments to the reviews and even make suggestions for books they would like to see reviewed. The webmaster, Jennifer Hubert, is a middle school librarian in New York.

A blog that reviews both books and movies for interested teens (and their librarians) is *Zee Says* at <http://zeesays.blogspot.com/>. Zee, who runs the site, is a former teacher and current librarian. In addition to reviews, she also throws in programming information and ideas for teen outreach.

YA Fresh (<http://yafresh.blogspot.com/>) was developed by two YA authors, Kelly Parra and Tina Ferraro. They offer reviews of many books including their own, but they also chat up other authors as well.

Three young adult librarians run *The Yayayas* at <http://theyayayas.wordpress.com/>, another great resource for programming, display, and collection ideas. Of course, they do post reviews, but there’s a lot more to this blog than that.

Although there are no tags on her site, the self-proclaimed “Goddess of YA Literature” has some interesting information on her blog at <http://professornana.livejournal.com/>. In addition to reviews, she shares information she has gathered as a professor of YA lit. A link to her website takes visitors into lists of YA bibliographies and information from her presentations.

A great place to connect readers with authors is the *YA Authors Café* at www.yaauthorscafe.blogspot.com/. The site, run by three authors, offers interviews with tons of authors, as well as links to author blogs.

Finally, while not a blog itself, www.hclib.org/teens/Read_Authors.cfm is a nice resource for finding YA author blogs and websites. This website is run by the Hennepin County Library System, which has a ton of great RA sources for all ages.

These fine blog examples do not include “official” library blogs; there are a ton of those as well. Of course, many of you out there probably have enough experience (and maybe, desire) to create your own blog. Unless you’re too busy looking at the dog blogs...



Teen Guide to Global Action

The Teen Guide to Global Action is an exciting new book that features stories of youth from over 30 countries who are making a difference and taking action on local and global issues. The book includes a rich and varied menu of opportunities for service, fast facts, hands-on activities, user-friendly tools, and up-to-date resources kids can use to put their own volunteer spirit into practice. To learn more, visit www.freespirit.com/catalog/item_detail.cfm?ITEM_ID=584&CAT_ID=0 (Youth Service America, 2/26/08) [Thanks to Rhonda Putney, Lakeshores Library System and Mid-Wisconsin Federated Library System Youth Services Update, Issue 308, February 27, 2008]

Book Look

Lois Lenski Covey Foundation Grants

The Lois Lenski Covey Foundation, Inc. is a charitable institute whose purpose is to assist organizations in their efforts to provide books to children who might otherwise lack access to children's literature. Lois Lenski, the 1946 Newbery medalist for *Strawberry Girl*, had a life-long concern that good books be available to all children. In pursuit of this goal, she established a foundation to provide grants to public libraries, school libraries, and non-profit agencies serving disadvantaged populations.

The Lois Lenski Covey Foundation, Inc. annually awards grants to rural and urban, public and school libraries serving at-risk children. The Foundation gives priority to applications from libraries and agencies with real need and limited book budgets. Funds are earmarked for purchasing books for young people, and are not intended for administrative or operational use. Previously awarded grants have ranged from \$500 to \$3,000. Successful applicants have proposed purchases to update their children's book collections generally or to expand their holdings in specific areas.

An application form for the year 2008 downloaded in pdf is available by going to www.loislenskicovey.org/GrantApp2008.PDF. To qualify for year 2008 grants, completed application forms must be received no later than September 15, 2008. Grants will be awarded on December 15, 2008.



Upcoming Events

September Events/Birthdays

(please see "A Closer Look" for more information about several upcoming events)

National School Success Month - To help ensure that children are academically successful, spend time at school. Strong evidence suggests that the more involved parents are in their children's education, the better the children will do in school. For additional information, see www.parentingwithoutpressure.com/holidays/nssm.htm or www.crayola.com/calendar/detail.cfm?event_id=174&year=2008.

September 1 – **Labor Day** is a United States federal holiday observed on the first Monday in September. The holiday originated in 1882 from a desire by the Central Labor Union to create "a day off for the working man." Today, Labor Day is celebrated by most Americans as the symbolic end of the summer. Congress made Labor Day a federal holiday in 1894. For more, go to http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Labor_Day.

September 6 – **Read A Book Day** - Reading is a great lifetime hobby. It offers so many positive attributes. It's relaxing and therapeutic. It's educational. It's entertaining. And, a whole lot of other good things, too. For some Read A Book Day crafts and ideas see: <http://homeschooling.about.com/library/blsep6a.htm>.

Some additional events to observe in September include:

September 7 - **National Grandparents Day** (www.grandparents-day.com/history.htm)

September 16 – **El Grito de Independencia** (www.inside-mexico.com/featureindep.htm)

September 21 - **International Peace Day** (www.internationaldayofpeace.org/)

September 22/23 - **Autumnal Equinox** (www.calendar-updates.com/info/holidays/us/autumn.aspx or

<http://scienceworld.wolfram.com/astronomy/AutumnalEquinox.html>) and

September 26 – **Native American Day** (www.holidayinsights.com/other/native.htm)

Authors' Birthdays:

September 4 – **Joan Delano Aiken** (1924 – 2004). She was an English novelist born into a family of writers. She worked for the BBC and the UNIC before writing professionally, mainly children's books and thrillers. Some of her works include: *Wolves of Willoughby Chase Series*, *Arabel and Mortimer Series* and many more. Find out more at www.fantasticfiction.co.uk/a/joan-aiken/ .

September 5 - **Paul Fleischman** (born in 1952). This American children's author is the son of Newbery Medal winner Sid Fleischman. Some of his works include: *Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices*, *Bull Run*, *The Birthday Tree* and more. See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Fleischman for more.

September 8 - **Jack Prelutsky** (born in 1940). He is the author of more than 50 poetry collections including *Nightmares: Poems to Trouble Your Sleep*, *The Mean Old Mean Hyena* , and *Something BIG Has Been Here*. He has also compiled numerous children's anthologies comprising poems of others. He currently lives in Washington State with his wife, Carolyn. For more information go to http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit/poetry/jack_meet.htm.

September 15 - **Tomie dePaola** (born in 1934). Author and illustrator of *Bill and Pete Go Down the Nile*, *Tomie de Paola's Mother Goose*, *The Legend of the Poinsettia* and more. See www.tomie.com for more.

September 24 - **Shel Silverstein** (1930 - 1999). Author and illustrator of *A Light in the Attic*, *Where the Sidewalk Ends*, *The Giving Tree* and more. You can read about the author at: www.shelsilverstein.com.



Don't Forget! November 16-22 is **Idaho Family Reading Week**. This year we're going with a pirate theme: "AR-R-R-R-R-RE You Reading?" Watch for packets coming to your public library or elementary school library in mid-September.



Pirate joke: **What kind of socks do pirates wear?** For the answer, see the last section of the *Scoop*: "News Beyond Idaho."



Summer Reading News



2009 Summer Reading Theme Gets Creative

Poetry, painting, polka anyone? Fine arts and performance will be the focus of next year's summer reading theme. Check out the CSLP website for a preview of the manual for "[Be Creative at your Library.](#)" David Catrow, illustrator for *I Ain't Gonna Paint No More!* by Karen Beaumont (Harcourt, 2005) is the featured artist for the theme materials. The teen theme is "Express Yourself @ Your Library." The teen materials are illustrated by Brad Sneed. Read more about him at: <http://www.brad-sneed.com/>.



Donna Quiring from the Potlatch Public Library sent us this cute photo of their "bug" cake. She said, "We had the Idaho Repertory Theatre for Youth from the University of Idaho and they did the musical 'Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good Very Bad Day!' We had 82 people attend and it was terrific! We then had cake and a drawing for some great prizes including an iPod Nano Shuffle provided by the Friends of the Potlatch Library. It was a fun theme and a great success!"



Summer Reading Online Report Form Now Available

As summer reading programs start to wind down, don't forget one last thing before you put away all those bug props and craft supplies. It's time to fill out your statewide summer reading survey online. Idaho libraries have shown a steady increase in participation over the past few years. In fact, 62% more children participated in 2007 than in 2004. Last year, libraries reported that 44,600 children registered for summer reading. The information you provide helps the Commission maintain funding for this signature library program. To fill out the survey, go to: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/2008summer-reading>.



Thank You Fred Meyer

We have had several requests for the Fred Meyer address to send thank you notes, so we are repeating it here: Glynda Brockhoff, Philanthropy Coordinator Fred Meyer Stores Mail Stop 04002/34N PO Box 42121 Portland, OR 97242.

Know the Numbers

KIDS COUNT Data Book Released

The Annie E. Casey Foundation's 19th annual *Kids Count Data Book* was released on June 12th. The annual *Data Book* is a national and state-by-state profile of the well-being of America's children that seeks to enrich discussions concerning ways to secure better futures for all kids. The *Data Book* ranks states on 10 key measures and provides data on the economic, health, education, and social conditions of America's children and families. This year, the *Kids Count Data Book* essay, "A Road Map for Juvenile Justice Reform" looks at the nearly 100,000 children confined to juvenile facilities on any given night in the United States, and what can be done to reduce unnecessary and inappropriate detention and incarceration and increase opportunities for positive youth development and community safety. Learn more and download the report at: <http://www.kidscount.org>.



A Closer Look at Early Fall Reading Events

Fall provides a fresh start, with an emphasis on learning. Here are some celebrations and reading events in September and October that put the focus on lifelong learning and provide libraries with the opportunity to promote their collections and programs and services:



September: Library Card Sign Up Month



Spearheaded by the American Library Association, Library Card Sign-Up Month is

celebrated by libraries across the country and is a great opportunity to remind parents that a library card is the most important school supply of all.

The observance was launched in 1987 to meet the challenge of then Secretary of Education William J. Bennett who said: "Let's have a national campaign...every child should obtain a library card - and use it." Since then, thousands of public and school libraries join each fall in a national effort to ensure every child does just that.

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, the NBA's all-time leading scorer and a prolific author, has been named honorary chair of Library Card Sign-up Month and is featured on a new READ poster.

An ALA fact sheet lists 52 ways to use a library card, including:

- Update your MySpace page.
- Check out your favorite graphic novel.
- Pick up a DVD.
- Get wireless access.
- Get homework help.
- Borrow or download an audiobook for your next road trip or commute.
- Take out the latest fashion magazine.

Visit the ALA website at <http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/otherinit/card/librarycard.cfm> for a toolkit containing a press release, a sample proclamation, PSAs, and information on ordering the READ poster.



September 8: International Literacy Day



Celebrated annually on September 8, since 1966, International Literacy Day calls attention to the global effort to promote literacy and education as a central United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) mission. Many organizations and governments throughout the world take advantage of the day to consider the status of adult and child literacy, note progress, and identify work still to be done.

For background and history information go to [International Literacy Day Background](#).

Here are some ways your library can participate:

- Invite a local author to do a book reading.
- Take learners to the library to get library cards and check out books.
- Publicize and distribute lists of recommended books for readers of all ages.
- Give awards for reading achievement.
- Sponsor a book-collecting contest.
- Compile a calendar of community book and reading events.

- Organize an essay contest about "a book that changed my life."
- Establish a book discussion group.
- Sponsor a book fair.

Other resources:

- International Reading Association's Idea Starters 2008! International Literacy Day Suggested Activities and Events
http://www.reading.org/downloads/meetings/IDEA%20STARTERS_2008.pdf
- Read Write Think Celebrate International Literacy Day Classroom Activity
http://www.readwritethink.org/CALENDAR/calendar_day.asp?id=584



September 15 - October 15: Hispanic Heritage Month
2008 Theme: Getting Involved: Our Families, Our Community, Our Nation

National Hispanic Heritage Month honors the culture, heritage, and contributions of Hispanic Americans. Each year a different theme for the month is selected and a poster is created to reflect that theme. Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated nationwide and begins on September 15, the anniversary of independence for five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Mexico achieved independence on September 16 and Chile on September 18. Hispanic Heritage Month has been celebrated in the United States since 1974, when President Gerald Ford issued a Presidential Proclamation extending Hispanic Heritage Week into a month-long observation.

Other resources:

- U.S. Census Bureau Fact Sheet for 2008 Hispanic Heritage Month
http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/012245.html
- A collaborative website by the Library of Congress and the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service and Smithsonian Institution.
<http://www.loc.gov/topics/hispanicheritage/>
- Education World's Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month
http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/lesson/lesson023.shtml
- Scholastic's Celebrate Hispanic Heritage website
<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/hispanic/index.htm>



Sept. 27 – Oct. 4, 2008: Banned Books Week “Closing Books Shuts Out Ideas”
<http://www.bannedbooksweek.org/>

Banned Books Week is the only national celebration of the freedom to read. Started in 1982, Banned Books Week was launched to draw attention to the growing number of challenges to books in schools, bookstores, and libraries. Banned Books Week is held in the last week of September and is sponsored by the American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression (ABFFE), the American Library Association (ALA), the Association of American Publishers (AAP), the American Society of Journalists and Authors (ASJA), and the National Association of College Stores. Banned Books Week is also endorsed by the Center for the Book of the Library of Congress.



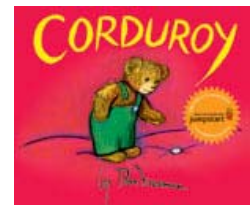
October 2: Jumpstart Read for the Record



break a world record and to make early education a national priority.

Jumpstart's Read for the Record is a campaign designed to bring attention to the importance of early education. By encouraging hundreds of thousands of children and adults to read the same book on the same day, Jumpstart aims to

The book for 2008 is **Corduroy** by Don Freeman (Illustrator). Children and adults will read together at events nationwide on October 2, in schools, libraries, stores, hotels, playgrounds, offices, and homes.



Since 1993, Jumpstart has been working toward the day every child in America enters school prepared to succeed. Through bringing at-risk preschool children and caring adults together in intensive, year-long relationships, Jumpstart has been able to build the vital literacy, social, and emotional skills children need to thrive. Jumpstart delivers a research-based, best practice curriculum to nearly 13,000 preschoolers in close to 70 communities across 20 states in America. For more information, visit: <http://www.readfortherecord.org/>.



October 12-18: 2008 Teen Read Week – Books with Bite



The eleventh annual Teen Read Week™ will be held October 12 – 18, 2008, when thousands of libraries, schools and bookstores across the country will encourage teens to celebrate this year's theme, "Books with Bite @ your library®." Teen Read Week™ is the national adolescent literacy initiative of the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA). This year's theme encourages teens to read a wide variety of books and graphic novels, from animals to vampires to cooking, just "for the fun of it." Libraries are encouraged to register online and can receive access to a brochure featuring recommended books, access to the logo, and program ideas. Also check out the [Teen Read Week wiki](#) for more resources and ideas.

Tips & Tools

[Thanks to Rhonda Putney, Lakeshores Library System and Mid-Wisconsin Federated Library System, Youth Services Updates, for these website recommendations]



Check Out These Websites

- **BookWink** <http://www.bookwink.com/>

Bookwink seeks to get students excited about reading by providing video book talks online as well as booklists that are appropriate for grade levels three through eight. Book talks are categorized by theme or topic, with the books of the day featured on the main page. The archive includes two or three books in each of eight themes including witches, World War II, sharks, 19th Century, love, mythology, volcanoes, and mermaids. Sonja Cole, a middle school librarian and high school English teacher, is the host of the site and the book reviewer. Visitors to the site can subscribe to the Wink-list to receive news of upcoming videos or to the video podcast to automatically receive the latest videos. Additionally, there is an extensive list of books that are appropriate for grades 3-8 that can be perused by subject, grade level, author, or title. Book titles include a brief description and link to a site where they can be purchased. (Education World Site Reviews, 6/24/08)

- **Whyville** <http://www.whyville.net>

Tweens will enjoy the activities and the interaction with other students in the Whyville community. Visitors to the page will want to begin by creating their own persona and joining the community (membership is free). Then they can participate in activities that range from science and math to art, civics, and economics. Examples include earning a salary by participating in educational activities, managing finances and shopping in the bazaar. Destinations within Whyville include the playground, pool party, room decorator, smartcars arena, spinlab, sportplatz, the Whyville Times, and much more. Whyville works with such institutions as NASA, the Getty Museum, the School Nutrition Association, and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution to bring the educational content to its "citizens." (Education World Site Reviews, 6/24/08)

- **Words and Pictures**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/wordsandpictures/index.shtml>

Engage beginning readers with the free interactive experiences on the BBC's Words and Pictures Web site. Although intended to align with the BBC Schools TV series, the site stands up well on its own. Its organization provides a systematic program that has online phonics games and other activities for children learning to read and write. The interactive games are organized by word type, including CVC words, consonant blends and long-vowel sounds. The games are also suited for use on an interactive whiteboard. (Big Deal Book's ELL Newsletter, 6/10/08)



Cultivating Readers/Cultivando El Hábito de las Lectura Brochure

The National Center for Family Literacy (NCFL) has released a new resource printed in Spanish in conjunction with El Día de los Niños, the holiday that recognizes children as the center of the family. The publication, “Cultivating Readers” or “Cultivando el hábito de la lectura,” provides activities for parents to support their child's literacy, language and reading skills. NCFL thinks the resource will increase school readiness for infants and toddlers, preschoolers, and students from kindergarten through third grade.

The brochure gives some practical advice for parents to help in the development of their children's abilities. It is divided into sections so as to promote different kinds of habits for different age groups, 0-2, 3-5, and 6-8. It also includes a glossary of terms related to reading such as text comprehension, print awareness, phonemic awareness and more. Go to www.famlit.org/site/c.gtJWJdMQIsE/b.3485129 for more information and to download the “Cultivating Readers” brochure in both English and Spanish.



New Books!

The Idaho Commission for Libraries Professional Development Service (PDS) provides access to numerous titles in the field of library and information sciences. Free shipping to and from your library is provided! See <http://libraries.idaho.gov/pds> for more information. The following are a few of the recent additions.

Teens, Technology, and Literacy: Or, Why Bad Grammar Isn't Always Bad, by Linda W. Braun, 2006.

Signage Design Manual, by Edo Smitshuijzen, Lars Muller, 2007.

The Big Switch: Rewiring the World from Edison to Google, by Nicholas Carr, W.E. Norton, 2008.

The Ten-Minute Trainer: 150 Ways to Teach It Quick & Make It Stick, by Sharon L. Bowman, Pfeiffer, 2005.

Tantalizing Tidbits for Middle Schoolers: Quick Booktalks for the Busy Middle and Junior High Media Specialist, by Ruth Cox-Clark, Linworth, 2005.



Idaho libraries tap into Picturing America grants, others encouraged to apply



Several Idaho libraries have been successful grant recipients of the *Picturing America* grant sponsored by ALA and NEH. Jerome Public Library staff reported they are very excited about their project and Darlene Noe

Hotchkiss, teacher librarian at the Panther Library in the Parma School District shared photos of their project, including this one of Picturing America's reprint of *Boating Party*. The photo shows Parma's art instructor and a student doing a sketch from the poster.

Libraries and schools have a second opportunity to apply for a wonderful, free teaching tool. Picturing America, presented by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) in partnership with Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), provides high-quality reproductions of great American art to public libraries and K-12 schools to enhance the study of history, social studies, language arts, literature, and civics.

Public libraries and public, private, parochial, charter, and home school groups (K-12) in the United States and its territories are eligible to receive Picturing America materials, which include:

- Forty large, high-quality color reproductions of the selected masterpieces (24" x 36")
- A comprehensive teacher's resource book providing a wide range of ideas and background information to support educators using the works of art in core subject areas
- Lesson plans and additional resources available through the Picturing America Web site: <http://PicturingAmerica.neh.gov>

Also eligible are libraries with collections that circulate to the general public and those that offer reading programs to the public.

Application information can be found in the 'Apply Now' section of the Picturing America Web site, <http://PicturingAmerica.neh.gov>. Applications are currently being accepted now through October 31, 2008, with delivery scheduled for spring 2009. Please note that previous recipients of the Picturing America collection are not eligible for a second award.

News Beyond Idaho

Storytime Website

(This was posted on the ALSC wiki (http://wikis.ala.org/alsc/index.php/Main_Page):

Wilma Flanagan of the Spokane County Library District created a website with links to all of her themed storytimes. Each themed storytime link contains suggested books, fingerplays, flannelboards, poetry and crafts. The site does not appear to be active at this time, but it remains a wonderful resource. Visit the site at: www.geocities.com/mystorytime/index.htm.



Pirate joke: What kind of socks do pirates wear?
Answer: Ar-r-r-r-gyle!



Talk Back: We welcome your feedback on anything in *The Scoop*. Just e-mail Peggy or Stephanie and we'll print your comments in *The Scoop*.

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